

spell unity. Separation is the instinct of the individualist and no individualist can be a consistent Imperialist. It is not consonant with the spirit of Empire to get as far away from each other as we can. The spirit of Empire is getting together. If it all means anything—this Empire of ours—and if there is one thought underneath and through it all it is the thought of mutuality rather than division—co-operation rather than competition—synthesis rather than diffusion. In short, Imperial efficiency is based upon the centripetal and not the centrifugal idea. In these days of expansion and dispersion, not to say disintegration, I know of nothing that more completely can meet the present Imperial need, or work toward a more comprehensive Imperial purpose than the central organization and co-relation and housing of the scattered ends of our Imperial life and thought and giving to these “airy nothings” a “local habitation and a name.” And I am sure that the Empire for all time to come would hold premiers and governments responsible, should they, from any personal or other motive, attempt to block or even thwart the realization of this pressing Imperial necessity. The time has come for us to adopt some new watchwords and perhaps some new ideas. Let us admit it at once, and get ready to meet it—a new era is upon us. Revolutionary changes are in the air, for new and fundamental ideas have taken possession of the great majorities of the world. The new problems which confront us are those that can be grappled with only by larger aggregations of money, men, and power. Organization and efficiency are the watchwords of the hour, and “muddling through” is a fetish of the past. The problems of Empire are so urgent—so critical out here on the new Pacific—that we of all